

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /091 W

----- 060074

R 261715Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4594

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LIMA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE QUITO 1368

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EC

SUBJECT: LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC SOCIETY - SELA

1. VENEZUELAN FINANCE MINISTER HECTOR HURTADO MET WITH PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ LARA FEBRUARY 21 TO ENLIST HIS SUPPORT FOR SELA. THE ACTUAL RESULTS OF THE MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT HAVE NOT BEEN PUBLICIZED; IN FACT, THE MEETING ITSELF RECEIVED LITTLE PUBLICITY. THE INFERENCE IS THAT NO COMMITMENT WAS GIVEN. BUT MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS LUCIO PAREDES WAS REPORTED IN PRESS AS STATING UNEQUIVOCALLY IN GUAYAQUIL ON THE DAY OF HURTADO'S MEETING THAT ECUADOR WOULD NOT FORM PART OF A LA REGIONAL ORGANIZATION APART FROM THE OAS AND EXCLUDING THE U.S. HE REACTED STIFFLY WHEN VENEZUELA WAS DESCRIBED AS A "LEADER" OF THE LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES AND SAID THAT THE IDEA OF LEADERS WAS SOMEWHAT OUTMODED. EACH COUNTRY, HE ADDED, MUST CHOOSE ITS POLICIES ACCORDING TO ITS OWN PARTICULAR NEEDS. HE NOTED, TOO, THAT THE PRESIDENT'S ANNIVERSARY MESSAGE HAD EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO STRENGTHEN THE

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INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM AND THE OAS.

2. THE ECONOMIC ADVISOR TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TOLD EMBOFFS
FEBRUARY 25 THAT HE HAS RECEIVED FROM FOREIGN MINISTER THE DOCU-
MENTS THAT HURTADO HAD GIVEN THE PRESIDENT AND WAS ASKED TO
PREPARE AN ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATION. HE AFFIRMED THAT
ECUADOR HAS NOT FORMULATED ITS POSITION ON SELA. HE ALSO
SUGGESTED THAT IT MIGHT BE BETTER TO INSTITUTIONALIZE CECLA BY
FUNDING THE ORGANIZATION AND PROVIDING IT WITH A SECRETARIAT,
HEADQUARTERS AND REGULAR MEETINGS. HE ALSO SAID THAT THE POSI-
TION OF BRAZIL, AS REPORTED IN PRESS, MUST BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT,
THAT IS, BRAZIL IS RELUCTANT TO JOIN ANY GROUP THAT DOES NOT
INCLUDE THE U.S. AND FAVORS THE STRENGTHENING OF EXISTING
ORGANIZATIONS RATHER THAN CREATION OF AN ENTIRELY NEW ORGANIZA-
TION. HE EXPECTS THAT ECUADOR WILL DEFINITELY SUPPORT SOME
CONCEPT OF AN INSTITUTIONALIZED LA REGIONAL ECONOMIC ORGANIZA-
TION.
BREWSTER

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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